Transition Assistance Advisors

Who we are:

The purpose of the Transition Assistance Advisor (TAA) program is to provide a person in each state/territory to serve as the statewide point of contact to assist members in accessing Veterans Affairs benefits and healthcare services. Each TAA also provides assistance in obtaining entitlements through the Veterans Affairs System and access to community resources. The TAA initiative began in May 2005 when the National Guard Bureau signed a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Veterans Affairs. The TAA program is staffed by 55 contract positions a

Why we will be successful in meeting your needs:

- We care about you and your family.
- Over 90% of us are veterans or spouses of military members.
- Many TAAs have worked through the disability process and receive disability compensation.
- We have built strong partnerships and coalitions within the Department of Defense (TRICARE), Department of Veterans Affairs, State Directors of VA, Veterans Services Organizations, and State Headquarters groups, such as Family S

"The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war...shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation."

President George Washington

Who we serve:

The program is primarily designed to serve the members of the National Guard and their families. Additionally, we gladly provide services to members in all of the Reserve components.

What we can do for you as an individual service member:

We help you navigate through the numerous benefits and entitlements in the DoD and VA system. We take the time to assist you and not toss you into the "**800 number desert!**" We will educate you so you will understand the benefits you have earned, such as:

- Guard entitlements and access for health care in both the DoD and Veteran Affairs medical facilities.
- Benefits while you are on active duty and when you return as an OIF/OEF veteran.
- Important deadlines that require your action while still on active duty and as a veteran so you do not miss these time sensitive opportunities.
- Dental care programs (time sensitive).
- Referral for counseling services for you and your family that will not affect your career.
- Referral for possible compensation for injuries or illness sustained in OEF and OIF.
- Insurance information such as SGLI and TSGLI
- Rehabilitative care management needed to help you return to a normal lifestyle.
- Assistance with job search and connection with ESGR for rights of employment.
- Assistance in connecting you to the Veterans Benefits Administration and Veteran Service Organizations to file disability claims.
- Assistance in the event of financial hardship,

Where we may travel to ensure that you, your family members, your leadership, and the local state and federal agencies understand these benefits:

- Mobilization and demobilization sites
- Reintegration meetings
- Unit weekend drill gatherings
- Sponsored Guard leadership conferences at the national and state levels to the specialized organizational agency me
- Post Deployment Health Reassessment sites
- Guard Fairs
- **AND ANYWHERE ELSE YOU WANT US TO BE!**

How we helped others:

". . . He (Bruce Smith, PA TAA) was caring, compassionate, and very efficient. Mr. Smith was able to piece together the entire puzzle for us. Having him as our point of contact was a tremendous help to my husband and me . . . The information I received from Mr. Smith was a blessing, and took a huge burden off my shoulders . . . This type of contact is of vital importance to the Soldier and family. He has done an outstanding job. His experience and knowledge is truly an asset to families and to those who serve our country..."

- Army Guard spouse

"My family and I would like to thank Kerry Gehring for taking her time to help us through a personal and financial crisis. By submitting a request for assistance to a private fund, she obtained approval for $1500.00 for our housing needs and legal expenses to take a fraudulent lender to court. The interest and compassion she has shown to us helps us to be encouraged even more. "

- Army Guardsman

Our dedicated staff:

" . . . I feel like I have met my calling with this position. I found my purpose in life!"

- Lisa Lindskog, NH TAA

" . . . I love the fact that I am helping out our war heroes!"

-Terry Dean, OH TAA, Disabled Veteran

What you mean to us:

You served your country; now let us serve you and your family.

If you have any questions contact:

The State Transition Assistance Advisor (TAA) located at the National Guard Joint Headquarters in your state.
Andrew L. Jackson CSM (R)
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JFHQ-NC-J1 North Carolina National Guard
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